

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the following paragraph before the first sentence of the application at page 1, line 1:

This application claims the benefit of International Application No. PCT/EP2003/013984 filed on December 10, 2003 under 35 U.S.C. §371, entitled, "Method and Plant for the Heat Treatment of Sulfidic Ores Using Annular Fluidized Bed" which claims the benefit of German Patent Application No. 102 60 735.4 filed on December 23, 2002.